NATIONAL NEXUS PROGRAM – Strategic Planning Flip Chart Notes – 3/12/14

NNP Purpose/Mission – (from NNP Charter)
        Taxpayer compliance
        State cooperation
        Education
        Fair and consistent enforcement

NNP VISION – By 2019, the NNP will
- Be an evolving world class information "hub"
  - (evolving: keeping current; includes international taxpayer issues)
- Have both states and industry as active participants in NNP efforts
- Enable all taxpayers to comply with nexus requirements
- Provide front-end information and education for taxpayers
- Be a trusted organization (especially the Voluntary Disclosure Program)
- Be a "one-stop shop" for all things "nexus"
- Be the "gold standard" for nexus information
- Be publicly well-known
- Partner with states, taxpayers, taxpayer organizations and practitioners
- Develop innovative tools for nexus compliance
- Have active participation by all states
- Leverage the effect and results of the Voluntary Disclosure Program
- Use its work to influence state and federal policy makers
- Provide an information exchange for the states
- Develop uniformity proposals for regulations and statutes affecting nexus

ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

Strengths – the NNP has the following strengths that help it achieve its mission:
- Nexus training
- Round table among the states
- Voluntary disclosure program
- Resource to the states and taxpayers
- High quality information
- Synergy and information sharing among/between the states

Weaknesses – the NNP has the following weaknesses that hinder its achievement of its mission:
- Limited measures of success
- Limited staff resources both in the states and at MTC
- Not enough state participation
- Limited awareness by taxpayers of the NNP
- Too slow to act on voluntary disclosure applications
- Lack of uniformity in state nexus standards
- Lack of information about state nexus standards
- Lack of focus for NNP
- Focus of NNP is too narrow
- Lack of clarity of role of NNP and Nexus Committee with respect to other MTC committees and programs
- Lack of readily available information on current nexus issues
- Not enough engagement by taxpayers

Opportunities – the NNP can take advantage of the following opportunities to help achieve its mission:
- Gain more taxpayer engagement
- Gain more state participation (this will affect taxpayer engagement)
- Learn more about nexus issues seen by the audit staff
- Maximize the use of technology to inform taxpayers
- Serve as a clearinghouse for nexus issues and information

Threats – the NNP must be able to address the following threats in order to achieve its mission:
- Funding restrictions in both the states and the MTC
- Legislative action affecting nexus standards
- Lack of settled law on nexus standards in the states
- States moving away from the MTC
- Tax amnesties – deter taxpayers from voluntary compliance

Goals for the National Nexus Program
NNP needs to work in these areas in order to achieve its mission and vision:

- Partnerships: states, taxpayers, taxpayer organizations, state organizations, practitioners
- Membership: more state participation, local government participation
- Education: use of technology; education of taxpayers and local governments; create education modules that can be used by outside groups
- Uniformity
- Training and sharing information
- State engagement: publicity and outreach; what do the states need?
- Taxpayer compliance: front-end; voluntary disclosure program; publicity and outreach
- Resources: investment in services; suggestion box on web site
- Process improvement: voluntary disclosure program
- New program development: testing with taxpayers
- Synergy with other MTC groups
- Develop a nexus resource repository
- Balancing policy and standards with state sovereignty

PARKING LOT – Ideas worth keeping in mind as we move forward
- Consequences for noncompliance to taxpayers
- Voluntary disclosure program supports state sovereignty
- Website resource repository: nexus cases; nexus standards
- Take advantage of private sector resources
- Anonymous compliance leads from private sector